

Washington, DC – On Monday, Congressman Harry Teague issued this statement in reaction to the announcement that 72 National Guard troops will be deployed to New Mexico to support border security efforts beginning August 1, 2010:

“The National Guard will help bolster the efforts in place on the border and provide additional relief to our already strained local law enforcement agencies by adding more boots on the ground. While this announcement is encouraging as we coordinate border security efforts, we must take additional steps to ensure the safety of New Mexican families. This is why I’ve consistently called for a border security surge with additional resources for Border Patrol agents, Operation Stonegarden, and to build additional Forward Operating Bases to reduce agent response times and enhance our ability to apprehend criminals. This request was supported by the House and I look forward to seeing it passed by the Senate.”

As Vice-Chair of the Congressional Border Caucus, Harry Teague has consistently called for a robust, comprehensive strategy to address the violence along the border. In April, he called on the President to [send the National Guard to the border](#) to address the growing national security threat there and led 50 of his colleagues in

[requesting supplemental funding](#)

to step up border security, including funding for National Guard on the border, which was included in the recent supplemental appropriations bill passed by the House. Teague has also called on President Barack Obama to

[convene a White House Summit](#)

with the aim of building a policy to address the border violence crisis, ensure that the violence does not spill over into the United States, and help America get back to work building our border economies.

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